Comments

In response to the above-noted Office Action, Applicant has amended claim 1 responsive to the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is requested in view of the present amendment. Additionally, claims 4-11 have been amended for consistency with amended claim 1 and 2 and to conform with the requirements of 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Additionally, depending claim 12 has been added.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the claims pending for examination, namely Claims 1-12 are now in condition for allowance, which early action is requested.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR, & ZAFMAN

Dated:

12400 Wilshire Boulevard Seventh Floor Los Angeles, California 90025 (310) 207-3800 By:

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Eric S. Hyman) Reg. No. 30,139

CERTIFICAPÉ OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class Mail, With Sufficient Postage, In An Envelope Addressed To: Mail Stop Amendments, Commissioner

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Linda Marie D'Elia May 7, 200

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